



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/668,212	09/22/2000	Patrick Callaghan	EN999068	9821

30743 7590 04/21/2004

WHITHAM, CURTIS & CHRISTOFFERSON, P.C.
11491 SUNSET HILLS ROAD
SUITE 340
RESTON, VA 20190

EXAMINER

PAULA, CESAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2178

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2004

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/668,212

Applicant(s)

CALLAGHAN ET AL.

Examiner

CESAR B PAULA

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application, and IDS filed on 9/22/2000.

This action is made Non-Final.

2. Claims 1-16 are pending in the case. Claim 1 is an independent claim.

Drawings

3. The drawings filed on 9/22/2000 have been approved by the examiner.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 9/22/2000 has been entered, and considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 10-16 recite the limitation "the prompting, moving, and exiting steps" in line 3.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. There is not an "exiting step" in claim 1 to refer to.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-4, and 6-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uppaluru (Pat. # 6,400,806 B1, 6/4/2002, filed on 4/5/1999).

Regarding independent claim 1, Uppaluru discloses the use of a conventional browser, which is modified with appropriate voice information extensions using HVML (Hyper Voice Markup Language)—*multimodal browser*-- for displaying and playing web pages, such as web forms—*visually, and audibly navigating forms*. Using tags, a user can also supply input, such as spoken alphabet, and digit, keyword, proper names, and free-form voice information input into HVML forms for filling in these forms-- *navigating form fields* (col.6, lines 53-57, col.8, line 2-col.9, line 6, col.10, line 34-col.11, line 14).

Moreover, Uppaluru discloses a user's web browser accessing, and navigating forms requested supplied from a server over the Internet (col.8, line 2-col.9, line 6).

Moreover, Uppaluru discloses the prompting for the input of information into a web page, such as a calendar form using the conventional browser, and inputs from mouse, microphone, etc.—*verbal or tactile* (col.8, line 2-col.9, line 6, col.12, lines 20-67).

Furthermore, Uppaluru discloses the prompting for the input of information into a web page, such as a calendar form (day, month, year information), business white pages form (company name, city, state code information), using the conventional browser, and inputs from mouse, microphone, etc.—*verbal or tactile* (col.8, line 2-col.9, line 6, col.10, lines 34-67, col.12, lines 6-67). Uppaluru fails to explicitly teach the *moving to another form field requiring user provided input either after a current form field has been filled in by the user or the user selects by verbal or tactile interaction another form field*. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have moved from one field to another, because Uppaluru teaches above the filling in of forms by providing requested user input, which provides the benefit of supplying information necessary to quickly, and smoothly retrieve web pages from the web server using voice and/or visual input.

Regarding claim 2, which depends on claim 1, Uppaluru teaches the inputting of a company's partial information, such as company name, city, state code information, into the voice web forms, and retrieving the company's complete information using response pages, which are presented as a result of the partial submission of information (col. 10, lines 34-col.11, line 14, col.12, lines 11-67). In other words, once the form is filled in it is submitted to the server, and the complete information is retrieved and sent within a presentation page.

Regarding claim 3, which depends on claim 1, Uppaluru discloses a voice form prompting—*reading aloud*-- for the input of information—*heading*-- into a web page form, such

as a calendar form using the conventional browser, and inputs from mouse, microphone, etc.
(col.8, line 2-col.9, line 40, col.12, lines 20-67).

Regarding claim 4, which depends on claim 3, Uppaluru discloses the entering of a
“REVIEW” —*command*-- selection for reviewing form values within a voice form (col.25, lines
61-67).

Regarding claim 6, which depends on claim 1, Uppaluru discloses the web browser
responds to user’s voice command by matching them with personalized vocabulary—*the
browser responds to one or more verbal commands* (col.8, line 2-col.9, line 6, col.10, lines 34-
67, col.12, lines 6-67, col.18, lines 29-50).

Regarding claim 7, which depends on claim 6, Uppaluru discloses the entering of a
“SKIP”—*command*-- selection for skipping a form value within a voice form (col.25, lines 61-
67, col.8, lines 63-67).

Moreover, Uppaluru discloses the entering of a “REVIEW” —*command*-- selection for
reviewing form values within a voice form (col.25, lines 61-67). Uppaluru fails to explicitly
teach *a command that directs the browser to review the form to ensure that all fields contain
information*. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the
time of the invention to have reviewed the form to ensure information was present in all fields,
because Uppaluru teaches above the reviewing of all the values in a voice form, which provides
the benefit of supplying appropriate information in the forms so as to retrieve information using

Art Unit: 2178

the form without incurring an error, which would also save time needed in refilling the wrong values in the form.

Moreover, Uppaluru discloses the entering of a “submit” —*command*-- selection for submitting the form to a server (col.25, lines 50-67.).

Further, Uppaluru discloses the entering of a “reset” —*command*-- selection for reverting to the original default values of the form—*canceling information currently within a field* (col.25, lines 46-67).

Furthermore, Uppaluru discloses the entering of a “reload” —*command*-- selection for reloading a form (col.25, lines 46-67). Uppaluru fails to explicitly teach *a command that directs the browser to clear the form and reprocess it*. However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to reprocess the reloaded form, because Uppaluru teaches above the submitting of information to a server, which provides the benefit of supplying a form in accordance to a user’s input, so as to provide the correct information to the server.

Regarding claim 8, which depends on claim 1, Uppaluru discloses a voice form for guiding a user step by step—*default mode in which order in which they are presented on the form*-- on supplying needed information (col.21, lines 7-67, col.23, lines 50-60).

Regarding claim 9, which depends on claim 1, Uppaluru discloses a “PAUSE TIMEOUT” tag which allows the browser to pause until the user inputs or a set time period elapses (col.24, lines 56-67). Uppaluru fails to explicitly teach *prompting the user for input by*

Art Unit: 2178

the browser after a specified time period if the user has not responded to an earlier prompt.

However, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to prompt the user again for input, because Uppaluru teaches above termination of input standby if the time expires, so when an input is mandatory for the field, this combination would provide the benefit of obtaining the mandatory input, and avoiding error triggered by not having all the necessary input.

Regarding claim 10, which depends on claim 1, Uppaluru discloses a web browser voice output—*audio queue*-- for playing voice strings in the order they are found in a web page (one right after the other) —*prompting and moving through web page*--, and using commands for terminating or exiting the processing of the tag (col.23, lines 39-67, col.24, lines 53-67).

Regarding claim 11, which depends on claim 10, Uppaluru discloses a web browser voice output —*audio queue*-- for playing voice strings—*text to be spoken*-- in the order they are found in a web page (one right after the other) (col.23, lines 39-67).

Regarding claim 12, which depends on claim 10, Uppaluru discloses a web browser voice output —*audio queue*-- for playing voice strings in the order they are found in a web page (one right after the other). The “welcome” tag indicates entry to the form, and the “<VoiceString>” indicates an exit of the form (col.10, lines 34-67, col.23, lines 39-67).

Regarding claim 13, which depends on claim 10, Uppaluru discloses a web browser voice output —*audio queue*-- for playing voice strings in the order they are found in a web page (one right after the other). The “TERMINATE” attribute indicates exit from a form field or element (col.10, lines 34-67, col.23, lines 39-67).

Regarding claim 14, which depends on claim 10, Uppaluru discloses a web browser voice output —*audio queue*-- for playing voice strings in the order they are found in a web page (one right after the other). The “PAUSE TIMEOUT” attribute for pausing indefinitely (if a value is 0) for a user until an input is made—*interruptible pause to the audio* (col.10, lines 34-67, col.23, lines 39-67).

Regarding claim 15, which depends on claim 10, Uppaluru discloses a web browser voice output —*audio queue*-- for replaying voice strings in the web page using a “reload” command—*repositioning of the audio queue* (col.10, lines 34-67, col.23, lines 53-67).

Regarding claim 16, which depends on claim 15, Uppaluru discloses a web browser voice output —*audio queue*-- for replaying voice strings in the web page using a “reload” command, which replays the page starting at the beginning (col.10, lines 34-67, col.23, lines 53-67). In other words if the page is half-way done and the user selects the reload command, then the voice output will start the reading of the web page starting over at the beginning —*loop back and repeat part of the audio queue*.

9. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uppaluru, in view of Goldhor (Pat. # 5,101,375, 3/31/1992).

Regarding claim 5, which depends on claim 3, Uppaluru discloses the use of a conventional browser, which is modified with appropriate voice information extensions using HVML (Hyper Voice Markup Language)—*multimodal browser*-- for displaying and playing web pages, such as web forms. Using tags, a user can also supply input, such as spoken alphabet, and digit, keyword, proper names, and free-form voice information input into HVML forms for filling in these forms (col.6, lines 53-57, col.8, line 2-col.9, line 6, col.10, line 34-col.11, line 14). Uppaluru fails to explicitly teach *prompting the user for input by the browser after a specified time period if the user has not responded to an earlier prompt*. However, Goldhor teaches a speaker inserting words into spaces of a report form (col.1, lines 26-67, col.3, lines 4-67, fig.1-2). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Uppaluru, and Goldhor, because Goldhor teaches providing the benefit of having much more details, using the speech system, than ordinary forms (col.4, lines 1-21).

Conclusion

I. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ladd et al. (Pat. # 6,269,336), Rhie et al. (Pat. # 5,953,392), Wise et al. (Pat. # 5,884,262), Saylor et al. (Pat. # 6,263,051), Wesemann et al. (Pat. # 6,349,132), Perrone (Pat. # 6,157,705), and Ball et al (Pat. # 6,600,736).

II. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (703) 306-5543. The

✓ Application/Control Number: 09/668,212
Art Unit: 2178

Page 10

examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached on (703) 308-5186. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

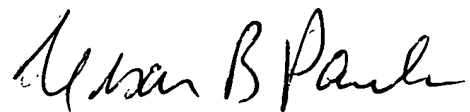
Any response to this Action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

- (703) 703-872-9306, (for all Formal communications intended for entry)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).



CESAR B PAULA
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2178

4/16/04